

WEST VIRGINIA -ELECTION CONNECTION-

Your source for Election News from Secretary of State Natalie E. Tennant

Issue 47 – September 11, 2012

In this issue ...

- General Election timeline
- Change in Write-In candidate deadline
- EAC Webcast on Veterans Voting
- Important upcoming dates
- How you can submit an item to the Election Connection

8 Weeks Until Election Day!

On Tuesday, September 11, there will be exactly 8 weeks until the November 6 General Election!

Change In Write-In Candidate Deadline

A reminder that next Tuesday (September 18) is the deadline for write-in candidates.

W.Va. State Code requires a "notice that a list of write-in candidates is available upon request" to be sent with absentee ballots. The law does not require the actual list to be sent with the ballot.

EAC Webcast on Veterans Voting

The Election Assistance Commission is hosting a live webcast on Thursday at 9:00AM on ways to improve access to voting for veterans.

The roundtable will take place on Thursday, September 13 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at EAC's offices at 1225 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. in Suite 150. It will be webcast live and feature a Twitter fall.

You can watch the live webcast by following this link:

http://www.eac.gov/veterans_voting_this_november/default.aspx.

Important Dates Coming Up

- **September 11, 2012:** Notice of Number of Sets of Emergency Absentee Voting
 - o Commissioners Needed (On or before the fifty-sixth day preceding the election) The county clerk, shall notify the county commission of the number of sets of emergency absentee ballot commissioners which he or she deems necessary to perform the duties. (§ 3-3-5c(b))

- **September 18-November 6, 2012:** Election Officials and Alternates Appointed (No later than the forty-ninth day before the election)
 - o County Clerks Fill Vacancies of Election Officials from date of notification through day of general election. When a vacancy of any election official occurs the county clerk must work to fill that vacancy. (§ 3-1-30)
- **September 21, 2012 (Deadline):** Delivery of Absentee Ballots to County Clerk (Not less than forty-six days prior to general election)
 - o Last day for board of ballot commissioners to have printed and delivered to county clerk the official absent voters' ballots. (§ 3-3-11, 3-4-10)
- **September 21 – October 31, 2012 (November 1 for applications received October 31, 2012):** Mail Absentee Ballots (Within one day after the clerk has both the completed application and the ballot. Ballots delivered at least 46 days before election and applications due no later than sixth day before election)
 - o Upon acceptance of a completed application, the county clerk determines whether the requirements have been met and mails official absent voter's ballot(s), envelopes, instructions, and any other supplies required for voting the ballot. If the clerk determines the requirements have not been met, the clerk gives notice that the ballot will be provisional. (§ 3-3-5)
- **September 24-28: First General Report** (Not earlier than forty-three days or four business days thereafter preceding the general election)
 - o Candidates, agents, treasurers file with the Secretary of State or clerk of the county commission, as required, a detailed itemized statement setting forth all contributions received and expenditures made which exceed \$500 or whenever loans are outstanding subsequent to the previous statement. (§ 3-8-5, 3-8-5a, CSR 146-3-8)
- **September 25 (Deadline, depending on date of appointment):** Notice Mailed to Election Officials (Within seven days following appointment)
 - o County commission notifies, by first-class mail, all election commissioners, poll clerks and alternates of their appointment, including a response form. (§ 3-1-30)
- **October 2 (Deadline, depending on date of appointment):** Election Officials Respond to Notification from Clerk (Within fourteen days following the date of appointment)
 - o When an election official or alternate fails to return the response notice or otherwise confirm to the county clerk his or her agreement to serve within the required time, the position shall be considered vacant and the clerks shall proceed to fill the vacancies. (§ 3-1-30)

Have an idea?

Is there something that you want to see addressed in the Election Connection? The goal of this newsletter is to keep everyone up to date about challenges facing election officials in West Virginia and to inform everyone about best practices that are being put into place. If you have an idea for a topic, have a question, or if you think there is a subject that election officials around the state would be interested in, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary of State's Office. You can contact the Elections

Division by email at elections@wvsos.com or (304) 558-6000 or Jake Glance directly at jglance@wvsos.com. Your input is appreciated.